

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (original) A dissecting tip for use with a surgical stapler, the dissecting tip comprising:

a body having a proximal portion configured to engage an end effector of a surgical stapler, and a distal portion, the distal portion having a first substantially linear section, a second substantially linear section and a curved transition section interconnecting the first and second linear sections.

2. (original) A dissecting tip according to Claim 1, wherein the second linear section includes a distal blunt tip.

3. (New) A dissecting tip according to Claim 1, wherein the dissecting tip is configured to be secured to an anvil assembly of an end effector of a surgical stapler.

4. (New) A dissecting tip according to Claim 1, wherein the dissecting tip is dimensioned to extend distally beyond the distal end of a cartridge assembly of an end effector of a surgical stapler.

5. (New) A dissecting tip according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second substantially linear sections each include substantially flat inner surfaces.

6. (New) A dissecting tip according to Claim 5, wherein the dissecting tip is configured

such that the inner surface of the first substantially linear section extends along an axis which is substantially parallel to a distal tissue guide surface of an end effector of a surgical stapler when the dissecting tip is engaged to the end effector.

7. (New) A dissecting tip according to Claim 6, wherein the dissecting tip is configured such that the inner surface of the first substantially linear section is spaced from a distal tissue guide surface of an end effector of a surgical stapler when the dissecting tip is engaged to the end effector